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Written Testimony of Christopher Phelps, Program Director
Before the Connecticut General Assembly Commerce Committee

February 24, 2011

Written testimony **opposing** Senate Bill 1020, An Act Concerning Water Resources and
Economic Development

Senator LeBeau, Representative Berger, Senator Frantz, Representative Camillo, and members of
the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer this testimony opposing SB 1020. Environment
Connecticut is a member-supported non-profit environmental advocacy organization. We oppose
this legislation because it would have the effect of blocking adoption of streamflow protection
rules that have been developed over a course of six years and that are currently pending before
the Regulation Review Committee of the General Assembly.

Across the nation water is an increasingly scarce resource. Connecticut is in an enviable position
compared to other regions of the country. We have an opportunity to take common-sense steps
towards protecting our water resources before it is too late. The streamflow regulation pending
before the Regulation Review committee is a small first step in that direction. Unfortunately, SB
1020 would effectively block adoption of that regulation to the detriment of Connecticut's
environment and citizens, and to the benefit of special interests intent on profiting off of control
over our state's water resources.

On behalf of Environment Connecticut's statewide membership, I urge you to reject SB 1020.

Sincerely,

Christopher Phelps
Program Director
Environment Connecticut